

In the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph at page 5, line 25 to page 6, line 2 as follows:

4- Fig. 3: Reduction in inflammatory responses to BDV in brain from rats treated with an anti-alpha-4 integrin monoclonal antibody (day 30 post BDV-inoculation). Fig. 3A BDV-infected rat brain showing extensive perivascular cuffing (arrow); Fig. 3B BDV-infected rat brain showing a reduction in perivascular cuffing following anti-alpha-4 integrin monoclonal antibody treatment (arrow); Fig. 3C uninfected rat brain control without encephalitis (arrows). Hematoxylin and eosin stain; magnification, X200. 4

In the Claims:

Please cancel claim 19 without prejudice of or disclaimer as to the subject matter contained therein.

Please add new claims 20-22 as follows:

20. (Newly added) A method of treating viral encephalitis in a patient, comprising administering to the patient an effective amount of an agent that inhibits binding of leukocytes to brain endothelial cells via leukocyte surface antigen alpha-4 integrin, wherein said patient is free of multiple sclerosis, and further wherein said agent comprises antibodies that bind the alpha-4 subunit of VLA-4.

21. (Newly added) A method of treating viral encephalitis in a patient, comprising administering to the patient an effective amount of an agent that inhibits binding of leukocytes to brain endothelial cells via leukocyte surface antigen alpha-4 integrin, wherein said patient is free of multiple sclerosis, and further wherein said agent comprises peptides and peptide derivatives that have binding affinity for VLA-4.

22. (Newly added) A method of treating viral encephalitis in a patient, comprising administering to the patient an effective amount of an agent that inhibits binding of leukocytes to brain endothelial cells via leukocyte surface antigen alpha-4

integrin, wherein said patient is free of multiple sclerosis, and further wherein said agent comprises peptides of SEQ ID NOS: 3-5.

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